

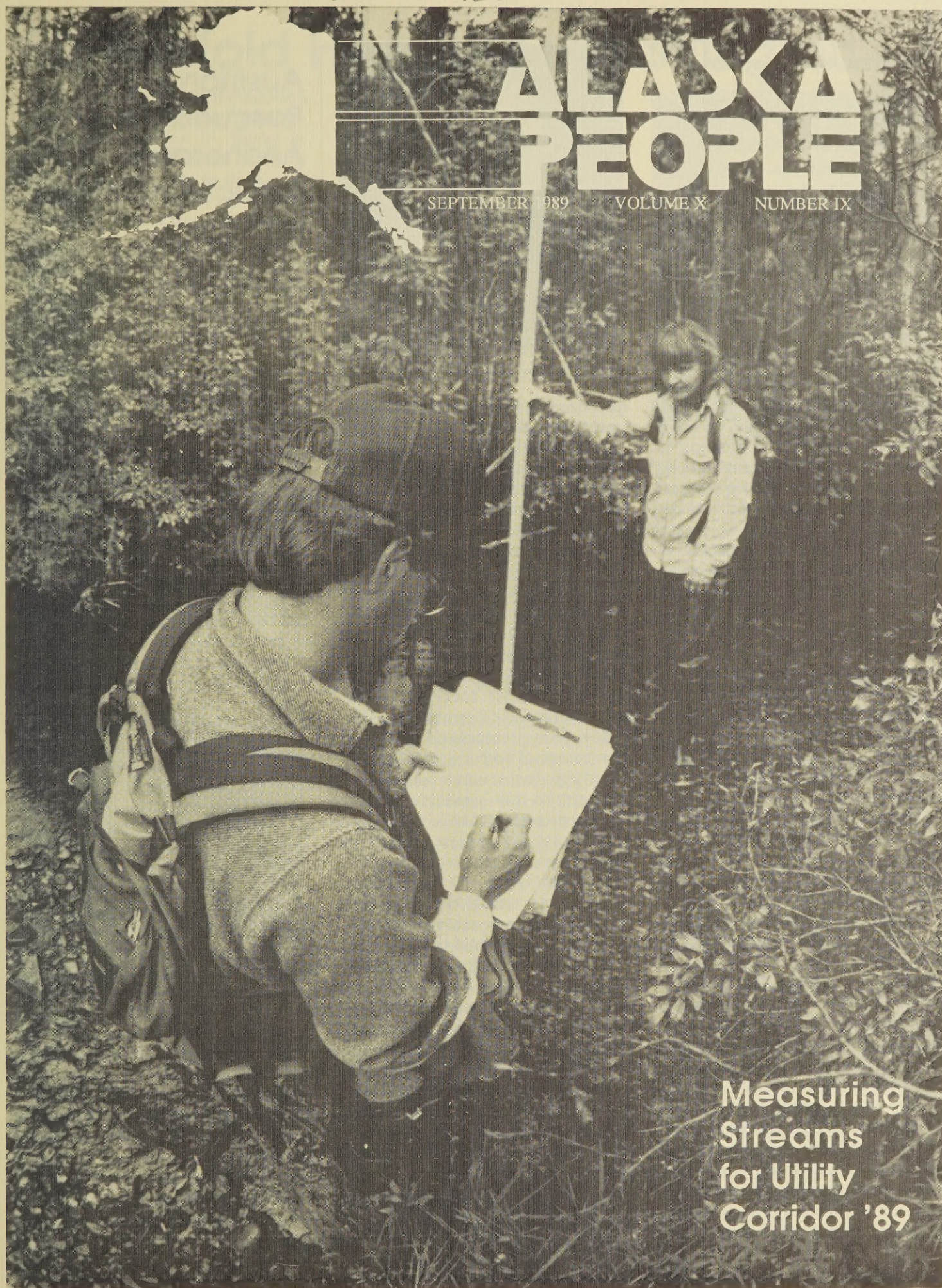
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# ALASKA PEOPLE

SEPTEMBER 1989

VOLUME X

NUMBER IX



Measuring  
Streams  
for Utility  
Corridor '89



## The Hanaayee Corner

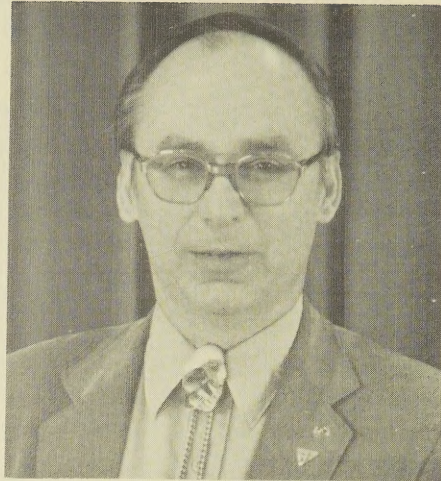
**"This patchwork of layers of conflicting claims for the same lands must be very carefully peeled back by the Conveyance staff, to determine who should properly receive the parcel in question."**

The conveyance program in Alaska is 135 dedicated people doing a unique and difficult job. While other BLM states have some minor conveyance issues, we have the huge task of transferring a total of 151 million acres of land to the State, Natives, Native Corporations, the railroad, and private individuals.

To date, on a simple acreage basis, we have transferred 81 percent of the State's entitlement and 77 percent of the Native entitlement. These statistics often lead people to the totally wrong conclusion that "the Conveyance Program is now winding down." In reality, only about 20 percent of these lands have gone all the way to patent (a patent is what the government gives as formal title to the land).

The remaining 60 percent of land has only been tentatively approved or received in terms of conveyance. For the most part, the large, easy to do parcels have been done. We're now down and dirty in the trenches with the really difficult ones.

This is so because the requirements of various laws, pre-existing rights and entitlements, and the massive cadastral survey effort (public lands must be surveyed before they can be patented) all overlap in a sometimes crazy patchwork. This patchwork of layers of conflicting claims for the same lands must be very carefully peeled back by the Conveyance staff, to determine who should properly receive the parcel in



Wayne Boden, DSD for Conveyances

question. A staggering amount of work remains to be done.

To deal with these complexities, the Division of Conveyance Management has six Conveyance Branches, a Conveyance Coordination Branch, a Documents Processing Branch, and a Townsites Branch. These are all located in the Federal building here in Anchorage with a small group working on Doyon Corporations lands located in Fairbanks. Each of these groups makes an important and unique contribution to our program. As Deputy State Director, I am pleased and proud to be associated with these folks.

Participative or consensus management is my preferred style. This means that when a change or some major action is needed, I try to get ideas and involvement from my colleagues in Conveyances. These ideas are blended by the group until they emerge as the consensus opinion of the group.

Acting on and following through on that consensus decision is then much easier because everyone involved "owns" it. This process is usually more time-consuming and difficult up front, but pays off in the long-term execution of the project. We can't always do this, sometimes there isn't time, or the topic doesn't lend itself to this process.

*Pronounced ha nie' yee, hanaayee is Koyukon Athabascan for "reporter" or "one who talks."*

## Austrian Rescued by Anchorage District Employees

by Danielle Allen

Little did Bernhard Bechter know that after 15 weeks in the Alaska wilderness, lady luck would come to him in the form of two Anchorage District employees.

While flying a routine patrol of the Unalakleet River in August, ADO natural resource specialist Dave Kelly and realty specialist Martin Hansen spotted a flare and dense smoke which took them to Bechter, about five miles south of BLM's newly constructed Tripod Flat cabin on the Iditarod Trail.

What they found was a Bechter, sick and suffering with what was thought to be a viral infection. He had been hiking the Iditarod Trail for several days when he became sick and spent three days confined to his sleeping bag. Not until the rumble of the helicopter overhead did the young Austrian soldier realize everything would be okay.

Coming to Alaska had been a dream come true for the survival instructor, who had trained vigorously in northern Norway before coming to the Great Land.

His travels began in mid-May when he hiked from Anaktuvik Pass in the Brooks Range to Wiseman. He combined hiking the tundra with floats down the Koyukuk and Yukon Rivers until he came upon the boggy Iditarod Trail. While hiking from Kaltag to Unalakleet, Bechter became ill.

"The Iditarod is a winter use trail. Hardly anyone hikes the trail in the summer," says Hansen. The sandbars and shallows in the river would also make it unlikely that anyone would be traveling that portion of the Unalakleet River.

Kelly and Hansen flew Bechter to Unalakleet for medical attention.



# SD Penfold Heads for Washington

It is indeed with mixed emotions that I leave this wonderful state. Being state director in Alaska is probably one of the most exciting and challenging jobs in BLM.

I have truly enjoyed my tenure here, and being able to work with you. I am looking forward to my new job and the new set of issues and problems, yet I will especially miss the people of BLM here. I am, however, going to continue to count on your support in the Washington setting.

The stewardship role of managing public lands in Alaska is huge, and requires the very best each person has to offer.

There are many parts of the job that don't come easily or naturally to any of us. However, one of the great strengths of BLM is the ability of our people to face change, to take a fresh look at how we do business, and to challenge ourselves anew. This is a tremendous

strength, and one that will serve us well in a rapidly changing world.

BLM in Alaska has a strong heritage of service. With so many conflicting interests, we have been a positive force in finding solutions to difficult problems. BLM has earned a widespread (if sometimes quiet) trust among the diverse people and interests we serve every day. That trust is a precious commodity, and each of you has had some part in building it.

We have been called to keep the national promise of transferring land to Native people. Too often, this vital job is poorly understood, but it is a grand undertaking, and worthy of the professionalism of BLM.

We are starting with a clean slate for long-term management, and the job presents both a huge challenge and wonderful opportunity.



*Mike Penfold*

We will be faced with demands from the public that we make only the best decisions, based on a solid foundation of science. We can do that.

Thank you for your help. Thank you for your dedication. God bless you.

## Reagan is Fairbanks' Federal Woman of the Year



*Nancy Reagan*

*by Sharon Durgan Wilson*

Nancy Reagan, communications specialist with the Fairbanks Support Center, was chosen as the Federal Woman Employee of the Year at an Interagency Federal Women's Program awards luncheon in Fairbanks August 28.

Reagan impressed the judges

with her outstanding work accomplishments and her speech. She encouraged the audience to take risks. "The worst that can happen is that you will embarrass yourself. I am living proof that you don't die of embarrassment. Few of us wield enough power in our jobs to cause the end of the world if we make a mistake."

"We have to keep our perspective and our sense of humor about the ridiculousness that pervades all our lives," Reagan said. "Keeping a balance in our lives will help us bring a renewed sense of commitment to our jobs and a sense of purpose to all parts of our lives."

A quiet, behind-the-scenes worker, Reagan is the salvation of BLMers in northern Alaska who depend daily on telecommunications lines. She links computer networks for different offices, takes care of the data circuit between the Fairbanks office

building and the State Office in Anchorage, and is now responsible for the telephone system in the Fairbanks office building.

Reagan actively pursues what she calls the means for achievement. She takes university courses, studies on her own, and spends many hours figuring out a better way to solve telecommunications problems. Reagan's ability and can-do attitude prompted several of her co-workers to join forces in nominating her for the interagency award.

Her competition included eight federal employees from different agencies and administrative assistant Wilberta "Bert" Kammer, with BLM's Arctic District.

The luncheon was held in celebration of Women's Equality Day. Nancy Murkowski, wife of U.S. Sen. Frank Murkowski, was the keynote speaker.



# Working for an Eagle and for BLM

by Sharon Durgan Wilson

Boy Scout Andy Wappett recently planned and directed the construction of two bridges in BLM's Cripple Creek Campground, 60 miles northeast of Fairbanks.

"This community service project for BLM is the final requirement for my Eagle Scout rank," said Wappett.

Working with the Steese/White Mountains District engineer, he helped design the bridges and plan for materials, tools and transportation.

At Cripple Creek, fourteen-year-old Wappett called the shots for six of his fellow troop members, two members of the 124th Cavalry



*The Boy Scouts make sure the new bridge is level.*

Explorer Post, his scoutmaster and two fathers.

Keeping enthusiasm high while working under a hot sun, through rain squalls and under constant attack by voracious mosquitoes was a challenge.

The scouts lived in tents and were responsible for their own cooking. They assembled the heavy-duty bridges in record time, using a mix of hand tools

and power tools driven by a portable generator.

The scouts received BLM's new "Take Pride in America" badges for their work, the first awarded in Northern Alaska.

Wappett's older brother, Matt, achieved his Eagle Scout rank last year by supervising the completion of a woodshed for a BLM public recreation cabin in the White Mountains.

## What Can the Student Conservation Association Do for You?

by Danielle Allen

If you've considered using a volunteer or a Resource Apprenticeship Program Student (RAPS) think about using a Student Conservation Association person.

"The SCA," says BLM's volunteer coordinator Bob Moore, "is a nonprofit organization specializing in the recruitment and placement of mostly youth and students in the natural resource community."

Wally Elton, an assistant program director with the SCA, visited the Anchorage District last month and asked why BLM doesn't employ more SCA students? Only seven of the 75 SCAs in Alaska were employed by BLM this year, while the Fish and Wildlife Service had almost 40.

However, nationwide BLM is the second largest SCA customer, having 160 of the 800 SCAs placed this year.

Have a resource project you want done? An SCA can do it for you. Most SCAs are undergraduates who choose to work in a natural resources field for the experience. It costs BLM \$2,140 to bring a student to Alaska for 12 weeks. The cost includes a small stipend and transportation expenses for each student. Housing, which tends to be the most difficult part of the arrangement, is the responsibility of the agency.

The process of bringing an SCA to work for an agency begins when the agency submits work assignments to the SCA's catalog. These submissions come from natural resource agencies like the BLM

and describe work assignments available throughout the U.S.

The catalog is usually published in December. The diversity of its work assignments attracts a healthy number of applicants.

SCA does a thorough screening of the applicants, matching expertise with preferred assignments. If BLM Alaska has a catalog submission, then BLM will receive at least four screened applicants to choose from.

The SCA operates many programs, but its resource assistance program is the only one it conducts in Alaska. Considering what it costs to do business, the SCA is another option BLM has in accomplishing its goals.

For more information about the SCA, contact Bob Moore at 271-3190.



# Neufelder Wins Snowgoose Marathon...Again

by Rob McWhorter

BLM's Carl Neufelder is proof positive that nice people do finish first. Neufelder, age 54 and a Navigable Waters Specialist in the Division of Conveyances, has won in his age bracket, three of the last four annual Chilkoot Charlie's Snowgoose Marathons.

More than 400 runners participated in the 5K (5,000 meters), 10K, and half marathon (13 miles), with approximately 60 running the full marathon.

A marathon is 26.2 miles of wonderful, invigorating agony. "Getting through the last six miles requires about the same effort as the first 20," says Neufelder. "This is true even for really nice races like Charlie's where you can listen to the snowgeese staging and admire the beauty of Anchorage's parks and coastal trails." Neufelder went the distance in three hours and 50 minutes.

Neufelder started running 12

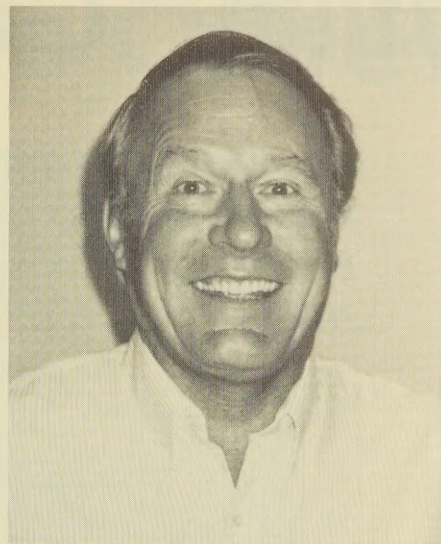
years ago while attending BLM's lands and realty school in Phoenix. That same year, he entered and finished the Glacier marathon, running from Girdwood to Portage and back.

Logging around five miles most days at lunch, with occasional longer runs after work, his pedometer reads 800-1,200 miles a year. This eats up two or three pairs of running shoes, but equipment expenses are minimal.

Neufelder's career with BLM spans ten years as a seasonal, 13 years as an O&C forester, and twelve years in Alaska in various positions.

Describing his association with BLM as "good, interesting, and even adventurous," he plans to retire next June. His other interests include sightseeing and photography.

Quite a few BLMers are runners and know Carl well. He is truly one of the nice people who has finished first.



Carl Neufelder

# BLM Golf Tournament A Big Hit



Cadastral's Dan Webb "reads the green" as Steve Hamrick "tends the flag."

by Frank Hardt

ASO's Division of Cadastral Survey organized and hosted the First Annual BLM Invitational Scramble Golf Tournament at the Moose Run course on September 13.

Nine foursomes teed off on an overcast but pleasant afternoon. Seven teams posted scores in the 70's and two teams shot in the 80's.

The team of Steve Hamrick, Dan Webb, Frank Hardt and Dan Carpenter posted a one over par 72 for first place.

Steve Hamrick crushed a 240 yard drive to take "longest drive" honors and Dave Allen hit his tee shot to within two feet of the pin on the 14th to take the "closest to the hole" award.



# Utility Corridor '89...An Inve

*Managing millions of acres with incomplete resource data is like playing poker blindfolded: it's impossible to know how many wild cards you hold in your hand.*

by Sharon Durgan Wilson

It was an inventory of balanced use and resource of public land.

Managing millions of acres of data is like playing poker blindfolded: it's impossible to know how many wild cards you hold in your hand.

Without extra help it would have taken several years to inventory the Yukon River. State funding to allow specialists throughout BLM-Alaska to

"The equivalent of the work accomplished this summer," Tom Dean. "Additional inventory in five years."

Forty-eight BLMers from different career fields met at 258 miles north of Fairbanks to form inventory crews.

Utility Corridor project led by Jim Silva and Jim Sisk, who worked in or visited the corridor.

By the time the camp was closed, accomplishments were many.

The recreation teams evaluated potential water-based recreational development, including potential off-road vehicle trails, made preliminary campground locations, 30 campsites and eight potential picnic areas.

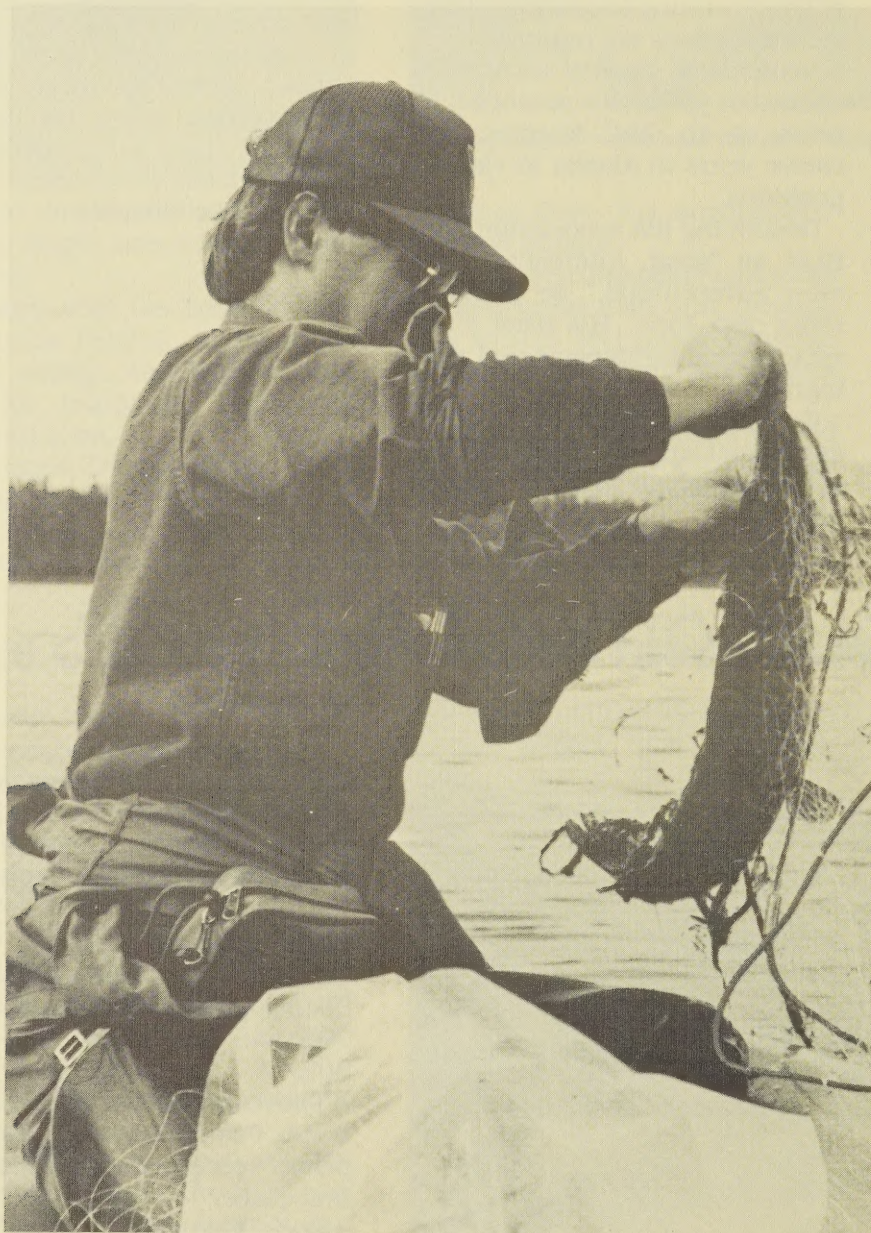
The wildlife teams evaluated Dall sheep after examining 100 sheep. Biologists sighted one pair of golden eagles, one nest site for a golden eagle and several raptors.

Sixty-eight water samples were flown to Fairbanks for testing to establish baseline data so future problems could be detected and evaluated.

Teams mapped more than 100 miles of timber that may be considered for future.

The minerals crew sampled 100 square miles of geological data of Environmental Concern.

Archaeologist John Cook mapped 6,300 acres and discovered historic sites.



Neil Barten uses a gill net to determine what types of fish species live in the Utility Corridor lakes.



# Inventory Effort Like No Other

...rt like no other. The goal:  
protection on 2.7 million acres

...es with incomplete resource  
blindfolded: it's impossible to  
...ou hold in your hand.

...ld have taken Arctic District  
...e Utility Corridor lands north  
...irector Mike Penfold acquired  
... and support personnel from  
...elp launch the project.

...ee seasons of work were  
... said Arctic District Manager  
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... 10 volunteers from many  
...n the community of Coldfoot,  
...anks, to help the resource

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...ilities closed August 16, the  
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...ated 232 miles of streams for  
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...ntoried 150 miles of existing  
... trails and 80 miles of hiking  
... surveys on five potential  
... potential waysides/trailheads,  
...ly sites.

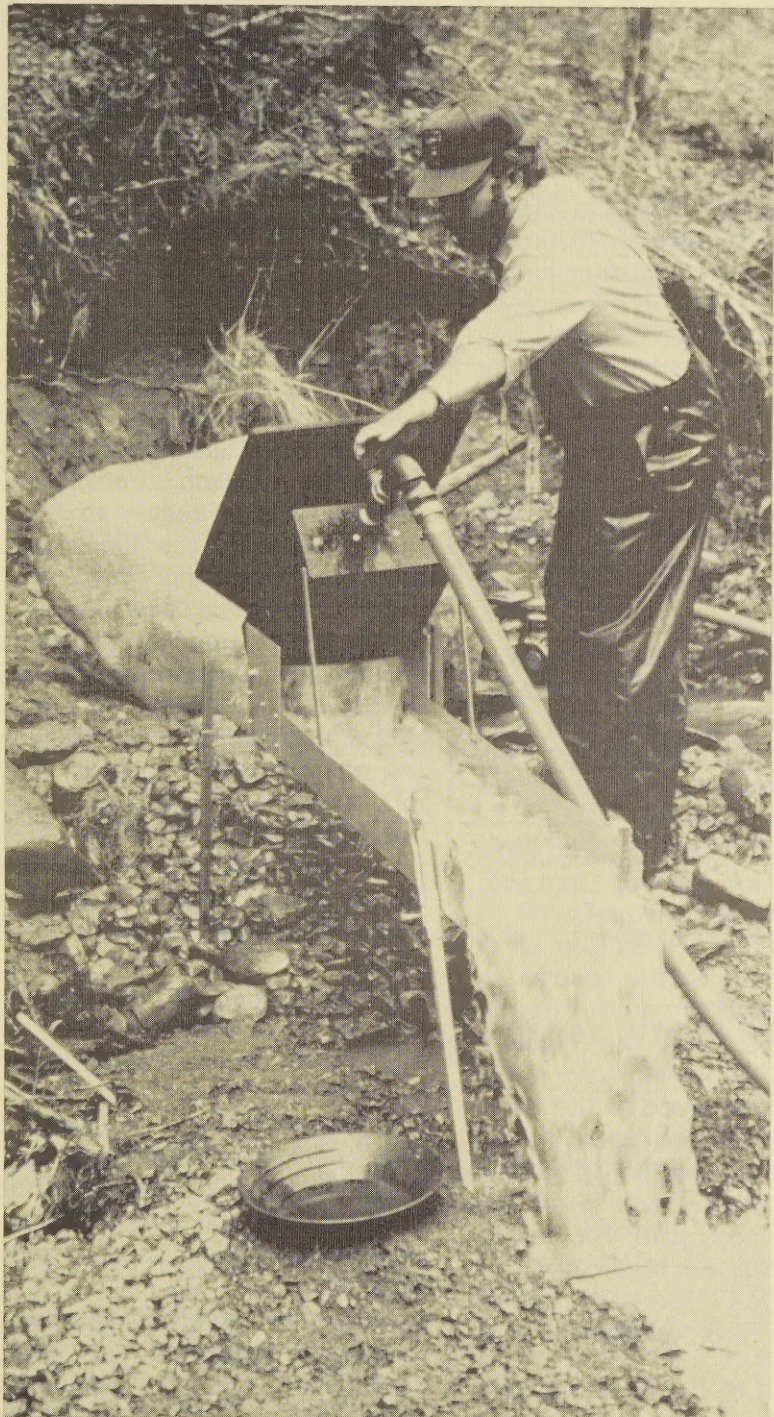
...ed three mineral lick sites for  
...ing eight potential sites.  
...f peregrine falcons, recorded  
...gle and 20 nest sites for other

...were taken from streams and  
...ing. These will help establish  
...anges in the water can be

... 3,000 acres of commercial  
...ed for harvest or sale in the

...ld 40 streams and examined  
...ology in Areas of Critical

...and team members inventoried  
...et 14 prehistoric sites and 18



*Mining engineer Don Keill adjusts the water volume on the portable sluice box.*



## Fairbanks Adjudication Does Disappearing Act

by Sue Mitchell

The Fairbanks adjudication staff is shrinking.

Budget constraints in 1986 spurred a reorganization of Alaska BLM. The reorganization called for all adjudication of cases to be done in Anchorage. Staffing adjustments, if any, were to be done through reassignment and attrition.

In March 1989, a decision was made to consolidate the remaining adjudicators in Fairbanks into the Fairbanks Section, Branch of Doyon Adjudication. Mary Bone was appointed supervisor.

The functions of the Fairbanks section of the Branch of Northwest Adjudication are now being consolidated in Anchorage. After this fiscal year, only Doyon cases will be adjudicated in Fairbanks.

Several of the original staff have moved in the last few months. Susan Giovinazzo transferred to the public room. Betsy Bonnell is working for the Kobuk District as a realty specialist, and Virginia Ezell has retired. Alice Hossfeld and Carol Nicholson have been temporarily assigned to the Land Information System team.

Of the remaining adjudicators, Angelyn Barbour will work on Northwest cases until the end of the fiscal year, and Reta Hubbard, Sharon Kendall, Linda Butts and Mary Bone will work on Doyon cases.



## Kiosk Built at Gateway to the White Mountains

by Sharon Durgan Wilson

The hydraulic whine of a backhoe, the clank of shovels and the intermittent banging of hammers rang through the air as BLM engineer Roger Evans and summer employees Eric Yeager and Jan Burris installed the kiosk on a desolate, windswept knoll overlooking the Nome Creek Valley.

The public information kiosk, located at a scenic pull-out near the end of U.S. Creek Road, northeast of Fairbanks, greets sightseers, recreationists and hunters as they enter BLM's White Mountains National Recreation Area. From the kiosk people can view Mount Prindle, Table Mountain, Cache Mountain and Nome Creek Valley.

"There's a lot of rain and wind in this location," says Evans, designer of the kiosk. "People can get out and stretch under the shelter without getting wet. At the same time, they can enjoy our photo display on what is available in the White Mountains area and what BLM is proposing to do in the future."

The new interpretive display was completed as a special project by Joyce Kelso, a summer recreation technician. Kelso handcrafted three large display cases to hold photographs, maps and descriptions of the area.

The kiosk is the sixth to be built by the district. Five are in recreation sites along the Taylor Highway in the Fortymile Country.

## Fire Season Slow in Alaska... Firefighters Go South

by Sue Mitchell

More than 1,500 emergency fire fighters and employees of the State of Alaska, U.S. Forest Service and BLM traveled to Idaho, Oregon and other states in early August.

Alaska's 1989 fire season was slow this year, especially in northern Alaska. In 1988, 602 fires burned 2.1 million acres. In 1989 437 fires burned only 59,000 acres.

"The lack of fire activity can be attributed mostly to wetter weather," said Don Barry, situation unit leader.

The only major fires in Alaska were southwest of McGrath, in an area protected by the Alaska Division of Forestry. Six large fires kept firefighters from all over the state and the Lower 48 busy for a couple of weeks in early July until it rained.

While rain fell in Alaska, Idaho and Oregon were experiencing extremely dry conditions with numerous lightning strikes from thunderstorms. Many fires escaped initial attack and became a problem.

Sixty-one emergency fire fighting crews of 20 people each, went south the first week in August. In addition, both of BLM-Alaska's highly trained hotshot crews went to various fires in the Lower 48. The Type I Alaska interagency fire team took over the Curren Mountain fire in the Boise National Forest in Idaho.

All the Alaska firefighters received good evaluations from their supervisors and co-workers. Many people said Alaska crews were the first choice when there was difficult work to be done, and their off-duty conduct was exemplary.



**November is health benefits open season, the time of year when federal employees usually think about changing health benefit plans, options, or type of enrollment (e.g. self only or self and family).**

**But did you know that under certain circumstances you are allowed to make changes between open seasons? The following chart summarizes some of the more common permissible changes.**

**Questions regarding your specific situation may be directed to Tim Godfrey, Employee Relations Specialist, at 271-3189.**

#### Enrollment May Be Cancelled or Changed From Family to Self Only at Any Time

Events That Permit Enrollment or Change	Change Permitted			Time Limit in which Registration Form Electing Change Must be Filed With Employing Office
	From Not Enrolled to enrolled	From Self Only to Family	From One Plan or Option to Another	
Open Season	Yes	Yes	Yes	As announced by the Office of Personnel Management, generally November.
Change in marital status (marriage, divorce, annulment, death of spouse)	Yes	Yes	Yes	From 31 days before to 60 days after change in marital status.
Other change in family status (for example: birth of child, legal separation, discharge from military service of a spouse or of a child under age 22.)	No	Yes	No	Within 60 days after change in family status.
Move from an area served by a comprehensive plan in which enrolled at time of move.	Does not apply	Yes	Yes	At any time after move.
Employee covered as a family member of another under FEHB loses coverage because of change of the covering enrollment from Family to Self Only.	Yes for Self Only	Does not apply	Does not apply	Within 31 days after change of covering enrollment has been filed.
Self Only enrollment under this Program of employee's spouse terminates as a result of change in spouse's federal employment status or 365 days nonpay status.	No	Yes	No	Within 31 days after termination of spouse's enrollment.
Employee's eligible child (or children) loses coverage under another enrollment under this Program.	No	Yes	No	Within 31 days after child's (children's) loss of coverage.
Employee covered as a family member of another FEHB loses coverage due to cancellation of the covering enrollment.	Yes	Does not apply	You must enroll in the same plan and option as that from which coverage is lost, if eligible to enroll in that plan, within 31 days after cancellation of the covering enrollment. If not eligible to enroll in that plan, you may enroll in the same option of any available plan within the 31-day period.	
Enrolled employee's employment status changes from full-time to part-time career employment as defined in the Federal Employees Part-Time Career Employment Act of 1978.	No	No	Yes	Within 31 days after the change in employment status.
Employee or spouse loses coverage under spouse's non-Federal health plan when spouse terminates employment to accompany employee whose reassignment is directed out of commuting area.	Yes	Yes	No	Within 31 days before or after move.
Employee or spouse loses coverage under spouse's non-Federal health plan because spouse was laid off from non-Federal employment.	Yes	Yes	No	Within 31 days before or after spouse's employment terminates.

## Beware of the Thing Counters

by Jim Shiffer

The "*Thing Counters*" are at it again! BLM has about \$20,000,000 in "*things*" in the state that periodically need to be accounted for. During the next few months you will see "*Chief Thing Counter*" Ron Alston and his assistant *Thingers* visiting the sites in Anchorage and Glennallen.

They will be asking you where *things* are, do you really need certain *things* and you may even have to sign for something.

It's really not part of a plot to make your job harder or even to replace lost *things* at your expense. The purpose is to keep track of *things* and make sure that *things* you don't need are given to someone who does.

This important job is carried out by Property Services Section, Branch of Field and Office Services, located at the Campbell Tract Facility in Anchorage.

Similar activities will be carried out north of the range by Dick

Early, assisted by Don Erickson. At the same time, Chris Pearson and Joanne Valentine will be looking for all those *things* the Alaska Fire Service uses to keep Alaska green.

The *Thing Counters* are just trying to do their job. So when they get to your area, please be patient and understanding. Just a little help from you can make their day and get them out of your hair a lot quicker.



# In Memory

**Steve Willis**, land law examiner with ASO's Division of Conveyances, died August 25 in Anchorage.

A lifelong Alaskan, Steve graduated from Chugiak High School where he was active on the basketball and track teams. He received his bachelor's degree in political science from Western Washington State College in Bellingham in 1974. He joined BLM in 1978.

In his free time, Steve enjoyed playing volleyball and listening to music. He is missed by those who knew him.

Memorials may be sent to Hope Cottages Inc., 2805 Bering St., Anchorage, AK 99503.

**Mary B. "Charli" Carter**, Chief of the Alaska State Office Public Room, passed away in Marshfield, Missouri, on August 15, 1989.

A talented and creative person, Charli loved music, working in land law and people wherever and whenever she met them.

Her BLM career spanned 13 years in both lands and minerals adjudication.

She had an outstanding soprano voice and was awarded a music scholarship at Drury College in Missouri. She appeared there locally in "The Sound of Music," "My Fair Land," and "The Merry Widow."

She was also a concert singer and played French horn and piano with the U.S. Women's Army Corps Band.

A music scholarship in Charli's name has been established at the University of Alaska.

Contributions may be sent to:

UAA Scholarship Fund  
Mary B. "Charli" Carter  
Music Scholarship  
Office of Development  
Administration Bldg., Rm 227  
3211 Providence Dr.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

**Don Dart**, Cadastral Surveyor died of cancer at his home September 1.

His survey career spanned 35 years. In 1952 he worked for the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey in Kansas. He went on to work for U.S. Geological Survey helping to map Yellowstone National Park. He served in the U.S. Army from 1958-60.

He was active with the national and local sections of the American Congress of Surveying and Mapping. He served in several offices and was instrumental in the success of yearly conferences held in Anchorage. He was a member of the Elks No. 1351 of Anchorage.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Hospice of Anchorage, 3605 Arctic Blvd., No. 555, Anchorage, Alaska 99503.

## WELCOME ABOARD

(August 1989)

**Marilyn Kuhn**, Miscellaneous Documents Clerk, ASO Division of Support Services

**Donald Rhodes**, Electronic Mechanic, Alaska Fire Service

**James McFarlin**, Contact Representative, ASO Division of Support Services

**Joseph McDowell**, Student Trainee - Clerk Typist, Branch of Document Processing

**Loren Gilbert III**, Miscellaneous Documents Examiner, ASO Division of Mineral Resources

## MOVING ON

(August 1989)

**John Vanduin**, Supervisory Cartographic Technician, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

**Richard Gohl**, Realty Officer, ASO Division of Mineral Resources

**Lisa Hoff**, Clerk-Typist, Office of the State Director  
**Virginia Mosely**, Secretary, ASO Division of Lands and Renewable Resources

**Richard Oelke**, Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey



# Workwise or Otherwise

Rangers **Randy Tracey**, Steese/White Mountains District, and **Wayne Stevens**, Arctic District, participated in a multi-agency drug raid in the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve at the request of the National Park Service in early August. The raid netted marijuana and hallucinogenic mushrooms with a street value of approximately \$150,000.

The facts will be presented to the grand jury in September by U.S. Attorney Steven Cooper for possible indictment. Maximum penalties would be five years and a \$5,000 fine.

The **child care** rating panel will interview top child care providers on September 26th. Once the panel reaches a consensus, it will make its recommendation to the Management Initiatives Committee. By issuing the Solicitation for Offers last week, GSA officially began the site selection process. Interested building owners may submit offers until September 22.

On July 18 the **Glennallen District** office received word that an injured bald eagle had been captured at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game fish hatchery north of Paxson.

Natural resource specialist Mark Phillips drove to Paxson and with the help of hatchery workers, got the mature bird into a large kennel. Realty specialist David Mushovic brought the eagle to the Anchorage Animal Hospital for medical care.

It's wing had been punctured but no bones were broken. The wound was seriously infected and it is not yet known whether the bird will recover sufficiently to fly again. If not he will probably join a breeding program or possibly live in a zoo.

Look for Miscellaneous Documents Examiner **Mary Bloe's** article in the *Life in These United States* section of the August 1989 Readers Digest.

**Joe Dygas**, Chief, Branch of Mineral Resources within the Division of Minerals, has been elected president of Anchorage's Polish-American Club. As president, Dygas has the vision of establishing Gdynia, Poland, as a new sister city to Anchorage.

Gdynia is a small port city on the Baltic Sea not far from Gdansk. "It is a natural for a relationship with Anchorage," says Dygas "Established in the 1920's, it's a young city by European standards." The population, as a result, parallels the young age of Anchorage residents.

Steese/White Mountains District Ranger **Randy Tracey** has become a popular guest speaker with the military units at Fort Wainwright. Several commanders seeking recreational opportunities off post for their troops have asked Tracey to give talks. Tracey gives talks on hypothermia and the proper way to dress in northern Alaska followed by a slide show of recreational sites throughout the Steese/White Mountains District.

He is using the opportunity to convey the BLM message of appropriate use of public lands, especially the use of off-road vehicles in the nearby Steese National Conservation Area and White Mountains National Recreation Area.

## APPLAUSE

### On the Spot Cash Award

**Cheryl Anzivino**, Secretary, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

**Melitta White**, Realty Specialist, Anchorage District

**Nancy Getchell**, Realty Specialist, Anchorage District

**Stephanie Clusiau**, Realty Specialist, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

**Richard Stephenson**, Realty Specialist, Anchorage District

**Paul Whalin**, Cartographic Technician, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

**Deborah Bertossa**, Natural Resource Specialist, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

**Judith Hinkle**, Miscellaneous Documents Clerk, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

**Kay Schaeffer**, Secretary, ASO Division of Support Services

**Allan Breitzman**, Realty Specialist, ASO Division of Conveyance Management

**Aaron Richins**, Cartographic Technician, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

### Sustained Superior Performance Award

**Allison Skeeseck**, Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

**Patrick Twohy**, Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

**Richard Oelke**, Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

### Quality Step Increase

**Mary Hartel**, Land Surveyor, ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

### Special Act

**George Hernandez**, Clerk-Typist, ASO Division of Mineral Resources

**Kenneth Van Waggoner**, Wildlife Biologist, Anchorage District



## Senator Stevens Cuts the Ribbon Fairbanks Office Building Dedicated



Senator Ted Stevens cuts the ribbon as Mike Penfold, Fairbanks mayor Jim Nordale, Governor Cowper's representative Debra Damron, State Senator Jack Coghill, and Deputy Undersecretary Vern Wiggins look on. (Photo by Sharon Wilson)

by Sue Mitchell

Senator Ted Stevens, Fairbanks Mayor Jim Nordale, Governor Cowper's representative Debra Damron, Deputy Undersecretary of the Interior for Alaska Vernon Wiggins and an audience of more than 200 people watched respectfully as the uniformed cavalry troopers presented arms, flags and led in the pledge of allegiance.

The ceremony was in honor of the dedication and open house of the new BLM office building in Fairbanks on August 16.

State Director Mike Penfold presented Senator Stevens with a plaque shaped like Alaska in appreciation for his work in natural resource management with BLM. The formal ceremony culminated in cutting a ribbon across the entry to BLM's Fairbanks office building.

Throughout the afternoon the public toured the building, chatted with uniformed BLM employees, viewed the many information displays and enjoyed refreshments provided by the Alaska Fire Service dining hall.

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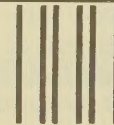
### On the Cover:

Neil Barten and Janelle Eklund measure average stream depths and widths as part of the fisheries habitat inventory of the Arctic District's Utility Corridor. (Photo by Ed Bovy)



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